

THE OUTCROP.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

Book VI., Chapter 31.

Wilmer, B. C., Thursday, December 28, 1905.

\$2.00 Per Year.

Quiet Yet Progressive

Another year is fast waning and with it North East Kootenay will pass from a remarkably quiet year to a remarkably active year, at least this is what everyone hopes and believes.

Looking backward it must be acknowledged that 1905 has been the quietest experienced in this big district for many years, and yet it has not been an unprogressive year by any means.

Every industry, excepting one, has actually made great progress, and even that one—mining—has made a little advance.

Mining is the one branch of our industries that has caused the quietus. In previous years mining has been our main industrial standby, but owing to the hopeful signs of railway construction our mining operators concluded to await its coming. The fact being that the most developed properties have reached that stage when better transportation facilities have become a matter of necessity for further operation, and the operators believe they are saving money by waiting the coming of the railway. These mines have reached a stage when concentrators, smelters and other heavy machinery are a necessity and coal and coke required in large quantities to make them permanent shippers. On the other hand owners of prospects have accomplished a considerable amount of development and many properties have been put in shape for shipping ore or opened up sufficiently to prove that the expenditure of large sums of money is warranted in carrying on further work. This work, for the most part, has been accomplished by the owners themselves, and, therefore, the employment given miners can in no way be compared to other years.

However, as has been stated, every other industry and resource has made excellent progress.

Lumbering, especially in the Windermere Division, has been given a fresh impetus, and from the present laid plans it may be judged that it is only a mere beginning of that which is to follow. At present there are several hundred men employed in the camps along the river and lakes cutting saw logs and railway ties and hauling them to the water; while others are at work clearing the creeks of jams and boulders preparatory to establishing camps further up in the mountains. The local ranchers are perhaps the most directly benefited by these camps, as they are enabled to dispose of all their products at fair prices to them.

Agriculture during the year has undoubtedly made the greatest progress of all our resources, and yet it is only in its infancy. The success of the few has inspired the many and at the end of the year it can safely be said there is scarcely a man in the whole valley that is not interested or desirous of becoming interested in agriculture here and a few outsiders have invested in it, while many others are investigating. Everyone is now forced to admit that the possibilities of this valley are exceptionally good for ranching, mixed farming, gardening and fruit growing, for it has so been proved. During the year thousands of fruit trees and bushes have been planted and other thousands ordered for spring delivery. This is the result of the success made by those who have already reaped splendid returns from the comparatively few trees now bearing. Fruit growing has almost become a "craze" No matter where or when a man is met he is ready to talk of it, and as the quality grown is excellent the indications are that as rapidly as time will permit this will prove a country renowned for its fruit.

Another resource that has made good progress is our magnificent scenery. The past summer there were more tourists gazing on our mountains and valley than during any three previous seasons, and the benefits therefrom were felt and will result in every effort being made to further increase this important resource.

All things considered the one thing that was lacking in

DISTRICT CROPPINGS

And Other Items of Interest in a General Way

Chas. Cartwright states he has sold his ranch on the hill east of Atholmer to W. J. Gospel, inspector of government offices. The transaction was for cash and the money has been paid. The price paid has not been made public, yet it is said to be a fair one. It will be remembered that Judge Forin was negotiating for this ranch last summer but for some reason the deal fell through. The ranch is well situated and last season yielded a fine crop. Mr. Gospel also owns other land near Thunder Hill and evidently has great faith in the possibilities of this valley. In his official capacity Mr. Gospel visits every portion of British Columbia and that he should invest here can only be considered in the light that he believes this to be the best agricultural district in this province. At any rate the fact that a man with his opportunity to judge of the land in B. C. has invested here is significant.

The Xmas tree and entertainment in the Wilmer Presbyterian church tonight should not be raised by anyone. The little folks have been practicing very hard to present a good program and the big people should encourage them by a good attendance. They have dialogues, recitations and songs ready that cannot fail to please and each one is worth the admission charged of 25 cents. The Xmas tree will be a very pretty one and will be loaded with gifts.

On Friday afternoon the children of St. Peter's church Sunday school had their annual party at the house of the Rev. E. A. St. Geo. Smyth. Suitable books were presented to them by the Vicar, then tea and many games passed the evening merrily away.

Christmas passed off quietly throughout the valley and in the towns there was little excitement, yet there were a great many little gatherings and many happy homes. Santa Claus appears to have called on all the children and left them many nice things to make them happier and better boys and girls.

The Sixth Annual New Year's Ball takes place in the Atholmer Hall tomorrow evening—Dec. 29th. It promises to be well attended and a very enjoyable affair. Don't fail to be there.

The building of several new residences is being considered at Atholmer and it is said several families have expressed a desire to locate there if residences can be had.

Hugh Macdonald, barrister, has been quite ill the past week with a gripe, but is now much improved.

Jas. L. McKay left Sinclair hurriedly last week for Nelson to transact some important business.

What are the "Beasts of the Forest?"

making the year a prosperous, active one, was the railway problem. Even this was not altogether without progress. Actual construction was started in July, and although on a very small scale, yet the work done so far has shown that the builders are complying in every particular with their charter and subsidy, and it is the general belief that they will continue to do so and that the year 1906 will witness good progress made in construction. If so, mining will be revived and 1903 will prove the brightest and most prosperous year ever experienced. So may it be.

Don't forget the dance tomorrow.

What is a "Fine Cat?" ask Jimmy.

The Windermere lake is now solid and teams are crossing on the ice.

Chief of Police Cameron has been laid up with a gripe for several days, but is now on duty again.

H. E. Foster returned to Firdlands on Saturday, after an absence of about two months in West Kootenay.

The full force of miners at the Paradise mine arrived in Wilmer and remained over Xmas, in town taking in the sights of the city.

The young folks of Sinclair gathered Xmas night at Mrs. Jas. L. McKay's home and spent a few hours tripping the light fantastic. All report a good time.

Local Conservatives generally believe that the Provincial Legislature will continue in office for its full term and that no election will be announced until then, notwithstanding the many rumors to the contrary.

The Cranbrook Herald's Xmas number just to hand is a beauty and would be a credit to a city five times its size. It is brim full of Cranbrook's history and progress and reflects the enterprise of the Herald and its patrons to a degree that is hard to realize unless one has visited that city. "Old Man" Simpson has certainly a whole lot coming to him.

The Vancouver Herald reports Richard Hall, M.P. (Liberal) of Victoria, as saying that in Victoria there is a widespread belief that the Government has a railway policy card up its sleeve and that as soon as the whereabouts for carrying on the business of the Province has been provided the premier will announce his policy and appeal to the country.

Al. Farmer went up with the mail, etc., to the Nettie M. mine last week, returning to town on Saturday. He brought back with him many letters for friends from Mr. and Mrs. Washburn and Mr. Riley, that go to show everyone at the mine is well and happy and that the mine continues to develop most satisfactorily. Mr. Farmer started up to the mine again Tuesday morning.

GALENA XMAS TREE

The Christmas tree and entertainment for the scholars of the Galena school, presented chiefly by Miss Harris, school mistress, and Mr. Dodd, Sunday school superintendent, was held on Thursday evening last. It was well attended and the following program was rendered much to the credit of all who took part: Chorus, by School, "Happy Greeting"; Recitation, by triads, "The Babe in the Manger"; Chorus, by School, "Glory to God"; Dialogue, "Little Workers"; Reading, by Mr. Dodd, "The Wreck of the Nelson"; Chorus, "Joy to the World"; Reading, by Miss Harris, "Wildie and Anna's Prayer"; Chorus, by School, "Merry Xmas"; Dialogue, "Welcome to Xmas"; Chorus, "Hurray for Santa Claus." After which the distribution of presents took place and a happy lot of were those who received them.

OUR ORE SHIPMENTS

Mine	Tons.
Paradise	2,200
Delphino	302.5
*Parmanan Mines	165
Nettie M.	41
*Swansea	2
White Cat	1
Silver Belt	14
M. T. Fraction	34
Bonanza	16
Pretty Girl	6
Tremness	31 1/2
*Estimated.	

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

A copy of the following letter by the Rev. H. S. Akhurst, which was written the Kamloops Standard, has been sent The Outcrop for publication and is well worth reading:

Dear Sir,—There have been sent to me forms of petitions to the Senate and Commons of Canada seeking the enactment of legislation on Sunday observance. May I be permitted space in your paper in which to explain why I am unable to sign these or canvass for signatures. These petitions must be taken in connection with the enacting clauses of the law which the Dominion Lord's Day Alliance is strenuously advocating. These petitions, besides making illegal the Sunday indulgence in many innocent recreations, will deprive many working people of the only opportunity they now enjoy of spending a few hours in the healthful open air of the country, and so escaping for a brief spell the soul-deadening surroundings of their daily life. The act will not prevent the rich from using their own carriages, boats and other conveyances, or from employing their domestic servants on the Lord's day, but the poor who cannot afford such possessions, and have few if any opportunities other than Sunday of using public conveyances for pleasure, will be deprived from doing so on that day. Must we conclude that hired service is for the rich a necessity, but for the poor a deprecation of the Sabbath? Is it just to refuse a public concession of those kinds of recreation to the poor which the rich have long taken without hesitation? Above all it is also to make restrictions and requirements beyond what is essential, when we know that men so homesick in break the artificial barriers, and in doing so with a sense of guilt become hardened and prepared to transgress commandments of divine and eternal obligation. Let us in all lawful and expedient ways try to ensure to every man his weekly day of rest, though that may not in all cases or on all occasions coincide with the Sunday. By all means lawful let us try to lead men to what we believe a right observance of that day. But as Christians we have no right to go further than St. Paul did when "one man esteemed one day above another," while "another esteemed every day alike," the apostle only said, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." Much of the work of the L. D. A. is commendable, but their proposed law in its present form seems neither advisable nor just, and to sign their petitions, though very general in form, would signify approval of the law.

What's the use of remembering disagreeable things?

R. S. Gallop, wife and family, left Cranbrook yesterday for Cranbrook and will spend six weeks in West Kootenay before returning.

Every man owes it to himself and his family to master a trade or profession. Read the display advertisement of the six Morse Schools of Telegraphy, in this issue and learn how easily a young man or lady may learn telegraphy and be assured a position.

McCurmack's, Gangway's and Webb's Confectionery at A. R. Yates.

"Robert," said the teacher, "give me an example of the use of the word 'dauper' in a sentence." Robert after a moment's thought delivered himself of the following: "The teacher is dauper about our English."

Rev. Mr. McKenzie will conduct Presbyterian church services at Galena the fourth Sunday of each month, and every other Sunday in Windermere at 11 a.m., Atholmer 2 p.m. and Wilmer 7:30 p.m.

LIVE IT DOWN

Has your life been bitter sorrow? Live it down.
Think about a bright tomorrow. Live it down.
You will find it never pays Just to sit wet-eyed and gasp On the grave of vanished days; Live it down.
Is disgrace your galling burden? Live it down.
You can win a brave heart's guard; Live it down.
Make your life so free from blame That the lustre of your fame Shall hide all the often shame; Live it down.
Has your heart a secret trouble? Live it down.
Useless griefs will make it double, Live it down.
Do not water it with tears— Do not feed it with your fears— Do not nurse it through the years— Live it down.
Have you made some awful error? Live it down.
Do not hide your face in terror; Live it down.
Look the world square in the eyes; Go ahead as one who tries To be honored ere he dies; Live it down.
—Western Home Monthly.

Loyalty to Party Called Treason to Rights of Society

I beg to call attention to what seems to me the most important lesson of the late elections, namely: The prodigious political uplift effected through non-partisan voting. I may be wrong, but I think it worth while for all of us to reflect seriously upon the idea of universal disregard of party organization. An unbiased review of political history will, I think, show that every great onward movement, has been achieved as the direct result of wholesale repudiation of party claims upon the voter. So true is this that I venture the assertion that we shall yet come to acknowledge that loyalty to party is treason to society. Loyalty to party inevitably entails the effective sanction and support of the voter to his own depoliment for the party is the boss; and the boss is, nine times out of ten, a thief. The heroic task of the cities for the immediate future is to break up the party machines, that are founded entirely upon party loyalty.

The average voter can exert no effective influence upon party policy, but everyone can vote upon the current political issue, whatever it may be. To stand by party policy is not to support the political principles that you believe in, but, on the contrary, it is to carry forward to fruition whatever scheme of graft and corruption the engineers of the party machine have in view. It is only when the people break from party ties and vote for things that progress is made.

Political corruption is therefore inevitable so long as the voters can be whipped into line under the lash of "party loyalty." He who acknowledges allegiance to party breeds a whip, falls on his knees, hands it to his party boss and meekly bends his back to the inevitable blow.—Edward Howell Pitman.

THE OUTCROP.

Published Every Thursday in the heart of a Wonderfully Rich Mineral and Agricultural District.

Subscription, \$2.00 a Year; Foreign countries, \$2.50.

Exchange must be added on checks.

Advertising Rates: Display ads., \$2 per column inch per month. Legal ads. 10 cents per nonpareil line for first insertion and 5 cents each additional. Reading notices 15 cents per line each issue. Delinquent Co-owner notice \$10; Crown grant mineral claim notice, \$7.50; Timber Limit notice, \$5.

W. P. EVANS,

Publisher and Proprietor.

WILMER, B.C., THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1905.

Several of the newspapers supporting the Provincial Government are advocating a government agricultural school for boys and girls, which is certainly an excellent idea and worthy of consideration by all who have the best interests of the province at heart. The Outcrop would suggest that this might be carried out in connection with the proposed establishment of an experimental farm in this valley. We see no good reason why the two cannot be worked together; in fact, it would seem that the two should be worked together for economical reasons, as well as educational. An experimental farm will require the employment of labor and our boys and girls need this employment in their education.

In Sweden there is a system of education known as the government cultivation schools. These schools are self-supporting. Parents who can afford to pay for their children's education pay the equivalent of about \$20 per month, but others who are not able to do so have no difficulty in placing their children in these schools and the children are under no disadvantage from this cause. The schools are situated in various parts of the country, often on reclaimed lands, but the children, in addition to ordinary education of the "3 R's" character receive practical instructions in every branch of farm work. The boys learn how to plant and raise crops, how to handle horses, cattle and sheep, carpentering and blacksmith work and so forth, while the girls are taught to milk cows, to make butter and cheese, to care for fowls, and in addition, every branch of house-keeping work. A young woman from one of these schools is capable of taking charge of a big establishment without the least difficulty. The work has been reduced to a system for her. The products of these government farms fetch the very highest prices in the domestic and foreign markets, which accounts for the schools being self-supporting. The work is made pleasant for the students and by degrees they become thoroughly interested in everything appertaining to farm life. When the time comes to leave the schools, the student, whether boy or girl, has no difficulty in securing suitable and profitable employment.

The Victoria Week is an ardent supporter of a government agricultural school and in a lengthy article on the subject has this to say: Sooner or later the civic communities on this coast will have to commence a campaign against centralization. Every boy and girl raised in a city wants to stay in a city, and about half of those born in the country desire to go to the city so soon as they reach the age at which employment is sought for. The country—except for camping and picnic purposes—seems to have no attraction for our young people. They look down, if you please, upon the farmer. They would rather work in a store! That is because of their complete ignorance—the ignorance that results from a little education. Given a chance to become producers the young people would flourish; as it is, many of them degenerate into mere parasites of trade. British Columbia provides opportunities enough in her magnificent forests, her mineralized mountains and her fertile valleys for all the energetic young people liable to be born in the country for the next ten thousand years, and yet there is a constant stream of emigration to the United States of young men who cannot perceive existing opportunities in their own country. The trend of our educational system is to blame. This education costs an immense amount of money—and to what purpose? What do the people of British Columbia receive in return for the money they pay to educate the children? Do the young people go "on to the land" and help to swell the wealth of the country? No! British Columbia has to look to Eastern Canada and to the Old Country for settlers; the products of the public school system earn small wages in offices and stores or leave the country that educated them.

The people of the Upper Columbia and Kootenay valleys are just entering on a new year that gives promise of being "the parting of the ways"—parting from a hum-drum, half-hearted life to active, strenuous life. Get ready for the change, for it will be a great one.

All K.C.R. Surveys Pass Through**ATHALMER****The Natural Centre of the District.**

Situated at the head of the great Columbia River, and at the foot of the beautiful Wintemere Lake. Athalmer is the Supply Point for all the Lumber Camps and all the Mines are reached from it. All Roads and Trails radiate from Athalmer.

There is no doubt about the railway passing right through Athalmer as every survey has made that point clear and switch yards have also been surveyed here. The purchase of town lots in Athalmer is a safe and profitable investment and prices are sure to advance.

A Ground Floor Chance.

Already Athalmer has a Hotel, Two Stores, Sawmill, Church, School, Hall, Telephone and Steamboat Communication, Etc., Etc., Etc. And there are good opportunities for other lines of businesses.

Choice Town Lots are Now on the Market at Low Figures.

For full information apply to

ATHALMER TOWNSITE CO.,
Athalmer, B. C.

Special Attention to the Mining Trade.
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WILMER, B. C.

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and Horse Thief Creeks it
is the Headquarters of all
Mining Men.

A Table that is always Replete with the Choicest
Seasonable Viands.

Rooms: Large, Airy and Comfortable.

G. A. STARKE, Prop.

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We furnish 75 per cent. of the Operators and Station Agents in America. Our six schools are the largest exclusive Telegraph Schools in the World.

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Students can enter at any time. No vacations. For full particulars regarding any of our schools write direct to our executive office at Cincinnati, O. Catalogue free.

The Morse School of Telegraphy.

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Atlanta, Ga. St. Louis, Mo.
Tampa, Fla. San Francisco, Cal.

THE HOTEL WILMER.

Is a new building and is furnished throughout with all modern improvements.

The bar is supplied with the choicest brands of Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

THE TOURIST or Traveler who wanders into Wilmer should always camp at the Hotel Wilmer.

Within its doors can be found beds that woo the weary to dreamless sleep, drinks that calm the troubled soul, and food that no epicure could pass without sampling. If you want anything more new

GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN, Proprietor.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that 60 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Mines for a preliminary to purchase 25 acres of land, commencing at post place of Wilmer, Lot 22, Township 22, Range 40, Section 34 along the line of Lot 22, then to north of Section 34, thence west to Section 34, thence along the line of Lot 22 to place of survey.

J. J. MOKAT.

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ROLLER BEARING,
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Save Money

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STRONGEST GUARANTEE.

National Sewing Machine Co.,

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

FACTORY AT BELLEVILLE, ILL.

Meteorological Report

The following report of the weather at Windermere lake from Nov. 15 to Dec. 22nd is supplied by R. S. Gallagher:

November		December	
Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
15 51	25 1	18 -2	
16 51	21 2	21 -0	
17 51	20 3	28 18	
18 44	31 4	32 24	
19 44	28 5	38 22	
20 38	28 6	40 21	
21 32	20 7	50 20	
22 40	22 8	39 20	
23 33	15 9	47 15	
24 31	25 10	56 27	
25 52	20 11	35 31	
26 50	24 12	40 30	
27 51	18 13	40 20	
28 39	-3 14	35 10	
29 18	-8 15	22 -5	
30 12	-1 16	30 15	
		17 34	25
		18 36	28
		21 35	5
		22 19	12

THE BUSY MAN

If you want to get a favor done
By some obliging friend,
And want a promise, safe and sure,
On which you may depend,
Don't go to him who always has
Much leisure time to plan,
But if you want your favor done,
Just ask the busy man.
The man with leisure never has
A moment he can spare;
He's always busy "putting off" until
His friends are in despair.
But he knows every waking hour
Is crowded full of work,
Forgets the art of wasting time—
He cannot stop to shirk;
So when you want a favor done,
And want it right away,
Go to the man who constantly
Works twenty hours a day;
He'll find a moment, sure, somewhere,
That has no other use,
And fix you while the idle man
Is framing an excuse.

THE SUN IS ALWAYS SHININ'

When you go to gettin' trouble, and the
world seems upside down,
When misfortune takes upon you, and
an awful lookin' frown,
There's a cheerfulness in knowin', when
it's dark for me an' you,
That the sun is always shinin' an' the
sky is always blue.
When the clouds appear the thickest an'
the daylight seems withdrawn,
An' the hopeful joy o' livin' seems to be
entirely gone,
Just remember, when the darkest, just a
little distance through,
That the sun is always shinin' an' the
sky is always blue.

So there ain't no use in frettin' at the
hard-lips that we meet,
For the birds are still a' singin' and the
flowers are just as sweet;
An' behind the deepest shadow there's a
God that's ever true,
For the sun is always shinin' an' the
sky is always blue.

[The standard of any religion is always
a little higher than the professor can
live up to.

Some churches that claim to be work-
ing for men are only working men.

Never put off until tomorrow the ques-
tions you might as well give up today.

Little "Ed." Harrison has decided to
hold the raffish of his eagle New Year's
night at Atholene, and the winner will
be a lucky person.

The Outcrop will print you, on short
notice and in any amount, shipping
tags, billheads, statements, letterheads,
notebooks, memos, receipts, envelopes,
visiting cards, business cards, bills of
fare, dogtags, posters, etc., etc. Will
meet any quality or price.

Holliness without heart is but a hin-
drance to humanity.
The man who jumps at conclusions
 seldom lands on facts.

A man can lie with his tongue while his
tongue tells the truth.

LAND NOTICES.

LAND NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on or after date
I will apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works for permission to pre-
cede "Share of pasture lands in the Indian
Reserve of North East Kootenay situated
as follows: Commencing at N. E. corner of
Kootenay District, there a north by chain I
the south by chain I, to the north by chain I,
then west by chain I, then south by chain I,
then east by chain I, to the point of com-
mencement.
Witness my hand and seal this 28th day of
December, 1905.
BARNETT C. HAMMOND,
BY HENRY MACDONALD, Agent.

TRACKS IN SNOW.

A Tramp in Canada in Winter and Some
of the Things He Observed.
Now by the Way.

A few days before the recent Janu-
ary thaw I started for a tramp
through the snow-covered woods.
The thermometer stood at 10 below
zero, but, as the snow was 20
inches deep on the level, the ex-
tension of getting through it made
me glowing warm before I had gone
half a mile, and when occasionally I
got out of the wind the air seemed
almost springlike.

Whether we enjoy winter or dis-
like it depends largely on whether
we are prepared for it or not. Cold
weather has no terrors for us if we
know that we are not going to be
cold in it, and half the nuisance of
snow is gone if we are sure that we
can go where we like without get-
ting our feet or clothing wet.

Some Precautions.

In other words, with warm cloth-
ing and a pair of rubber boots, or
snowshoes if the snow is deep
enough, there is nothing to prevent
any healthy person from enjoying
himself in the worst weather. Last
winter can turn out. For a winter
walk in the country an overcoat is
a mistake; it traps in the snow and
continually gets in the way. What
one requires is some form of cloth-
ing which will permit perfect free-
dom of movement.

With such clothing one can afford
to dress lightly for as every cross-
country athlete knows, a man can
keep himself warm in any weather
with practically no clothing at all
if he is allowed to keep moving at
his best pace.

A pair of gloves, however, will go
a long way toward making one en-
joy a walk on a bitterly cold day.
Not kid gloves, but a good big
pair, which allow for a generous air
space around your hands inside,
and with gauntlets which come over
the cuffs of your coat, and keep out
not only the wind but the snow.
And if you are going along alone
in bad weather, it is a wise precau-
tion to tell your friends, which di-
rection you intend to take, and the
length of time you expect to be
gone. When the snow is deep and
the air intensely cold, a sprained
knee or a broken leg may mean
death, if assistance does not arrive
in time.

A Red Squirrel at Home.

I had not gone far into the woods,
when, in passing a low-growing wild
apple tree, I noticed that the sur-
face of the snow beneath it had
been disturbed in an irregular man-
ner. It was furrowed, and here
and there there were holes leading
into little runways, which extended
downward as far as I could see. The
holes were much too large to have
been made by a meadow mouse, and
quite too small for a muskrat, and
I doubt if I should have discovered
what animal had made them, if the
impudent head of a red squirrel had
not appeared suddenly at one of the
holes.

He had a look of astonishment on
his face and a small apple in his
mouth. He dropped the latter on the
snow in front of him, but retained the
former for about five seconds, or
until, with a frustrated squeal, he
darted to the invisible regions be-
low.

The little apple, lying upon the
snow, told a pathetic story of the
little fellow's hunger, and of his ef-
forts to satisfy it, and I wondered
if he had any sense keen enough to
tell him where each individual apple
lay, or whether he tunnelled blind-
ly, with the hope of finding out one
occasionally.

Further on I came to a stretch of
half-open country, covered with bar-
berry and other bushes. And here I
found the paths which the rabbits
had made the night before, and all
along these paths the twigs of the
bushes under which they ran had
been cut off clean, as though with a
penknife, by the sharp front teeth
of the rabbits.

And thus the snow, which had
done the animals an injury in one
way, by covering up their food un-
derneath, served them well in
another way, by lifting them to a
height at which they could crop the
tender twigs nearer the top of the
bushes.

The grouse, too, had made use of
the deep snow as a platform, from
which to pick the barberries. In
spite of their natural snowshoes, the
birds had sunk quite deep in many
places, and their trail was little
more than a gutter.

And as I passed one of the bushes,
I saw an old bird's nest which had
been roofed by a white-footed mouse,
and as I touched a twig, the tenant
put his head out of the door to see
what the matter was. But I stood
very still, and presently he went in
again, perhaps to curl up and go to
sleep again until the fall of night
should make it comparatively safe
for him to go out in search of food,
and to leave his lacinate trail on the
surface of the moonlit snow.

The hungry chickadee.

But the most delightful incident of
my walk occurred when I was near-
ing home. A flock of hungry chicka-
dees flew into a maple tree above
me, perhaps knowing that I had
something to do with the many
square meals they have enjoyed this
winter. One of them hopped to a
branch close above my head, and I
felt in my pocket for some broken
nuts.

Taking off my glove, I extended
the hand containing the offering, and
I had his earnest attention in a
moment. Down he came close to me
saying "Cheer-dee!" and peering
into my face with his beady black
eyes, as much as to say, "Is it all
right? Come now, eat it?" But with-
out waiting for a reply, he flew up
on my finger, calmly picked up a
piece of nut, and flew back into the
maple tree. With my finger deli-
cately tingling from that delicate
grasp, I went home feeling, as
though I had shaken hands with a
friend.—Ereos Herald, Yarmouth,
Toronto Sunday World.

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